

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-15, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein, and add new Claims 16-51 to read as follows.

A¹ 16. (New) An interface system for connecting a plurality of data-processing systems via a data network, comprising:

at least one interface module connected to the data network and adapted to link the plurality of data-processing systems and transmit data on the basis of at least one transaction between at least two of the data-processing systems in said plurality of data-processing systems.

17. (New) An interface system according to Claim 16, wherein the data is accepted into a receiving data-processing system if the data is free of errors.

18. (New) An interface system according to Claim 16, wherein additional data is added to the transmitted data by one of the data-processing systems.

19. (New) An interface system according to Claim 16, wherein each interface module is further adapted to process data from different electronic data processing structures.

20. (New) An interface module for transmitting data on a data network, comprising:

a configuration module adapted to define a business process;
a template module adapted to define at least one template for the business process; and

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a mapping unit adapted to assign a destination on the data network for the business process and to act as a partner in the business process.

21. (New) An interface module according to claim 20, wherein the configuration module is further adapted to generate a plurality of logic links between a good/service, each of the templates, a product, a customer and/or a supplier.

22. (New) An interface module according to claim 21, wherein the configuration module is further adapted to define a customer to handle the product.

23. (New) An interface module according to Claim 20, wherein each of the templates includes a plurality of fields corresponding to the data.

24. (New) An interface module according to Claims 21, wherein the format module is further adapted to dynamically re-load the template.

25. (New) An apparatus for connecting a plurality of data-processing systems via a data network, comprising:

means for linking the plurality of data-processing systems; and
means for transmitting data on the basis of at least one transaction between at least two of the data-processing systems in said plurality of data-processing systems.

26. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 25, further comprising:
means for accepting data in at least one of the data-processing systems if the data is free of errors.

27. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 25, further comprising:

means for adding additional data to the transmitted data.

28. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 25, further comprising:
means for processing data from different electronic data processing
structures.

29. (New) An apparatus for transmitting data on a data network,

comprising:

means for defining a business process;
means for defining at least one template for the business process;
means for assigning a destination on the data network for the business
process; and
means for acting as a partner in the business process.

30. (New) An interface module according to claim 29, further comprising:
means for generating a plurality of logic links between a good/service, each
of the templates, a product, a customer and/or a supplier.

31. (New) An interface module according to claim 30, further comprising:

means for defining a customer to handle the product.

32. (New) An interface module according to Claim 29, wherein each of the
templates includes a plurality of fields corresponding to the data.

33. (New) An interface module according to Claims 30, further
comprising:

means for dynamically re-loading the template.

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34. (New) A method for connecting a plurality of data-processing systems via a data network, comprising:

linking the plurality of data-processing systems using an interface module connected to the data network; and
transmitting data on the basis of at least one transaction between at least two of the data-processing systems in said plurality of data-processing systems.

35. (New) A method according to Claim 34, further comprising:
accepting data in at least one of the data-processing systems if the data is free of errors.

36. (New) A method according to Claim 34, further comprising:
adding additional data to the transmitted data.

37. (New) A method according to Claim 34, further comprising:
processing data from different electronic data processing structures.

38. (New) A method for transmitting data on a data network, comprising:
defining a business process;
defining at least one template for the business process;
assigning a destination on the data network for the business process; and
acting as a partner in the business process.

39. (New) A method according to claim 38, further comprising:
generating a plurality of logic links between a good/service, each of the templates, a product, a customer and/or a supplier.

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40. (New) A method according to claim 39, further comprising:
defining a customer to handle the product.
 41. (New) A method according to Claim 38, wherein each of the templates includes a plurality of fields corresponding to the data.
 42. (New) A method according to Claims 39, further comprising:
dynamically re-loading the template.
 43. (New) Computer code, for connecting a plurality of data-processing systems via a data network, operable to:
link the plurality of data-processing systems; and
transmitting data on the basis of at least one transaction between at least two of the data-processing systems in said plurality of data-processing systems.
 44. (New) Computer code as set forth in Claim 43, further operable to:
accept data in at least one of the data-processing systems if the data is free of errors.
 45. (New) Computer code as set forth in Claim 43, further operable to:
add additional data to the transmitted data.
 46. (New) Computer code as set forth in Claim 43, further operable to:
process data from different electronic data processing structures.
 47. (New) Computer code, for transmitting data on a data network,
operable to:

define a business process;
define at least one template for the business process;
assign a destination on the data network for the business process; and
act as a partner in the business process.

48. (New) Computer code as set forth in Claim 47, further operable to:
generate a plurality of logic links between a good/service, each of the
templates, a product, a customer and/or a supplier.

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49. (New) Computer code as set forth in Claim 48, further operable to:
define a customer to handle the product.

50. (New) Computer code as set forth in Claim 47, wherein each of the
templates includes a plurality of fields corresponding to the data.

51. (New) Computer code as set forth in Claim 48, further operable to:
dynamically re-load the template.

Claims 16-51 are now pending. Claims 16, 20, 25, 29, 34, 38, 43 and 47 are
in independent form.

No new matter has been added.

Entry of this Preliminary Amendment and favorable consideration is
earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any
overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1205.